

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-10 EB-11 OMB-01 INT-08

COME-00 ACDA-19 H-03 SCEM-02 DRC-01 AF-10 /166 W

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R 242010Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION NATO

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S E C R E T USNATO 5113

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/79

TAGS: ENRG, NATO

SUBJECT: NAC ITEM: THE ALLIANCE AND OIL SUPPLIES

REF: A) C-M(73)94

B) STATE 209487

SUMMARY: STUDY GROUP AUTHORIZED TO CONTINUE WORK OUTLINED IN
PARA 6 OF REF DOCUMENT. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE INSTRUCTED TO
DEVELOP TERMS OF REFERENCE OF POSSIBLE ECON STUDY OF OIL SITUATION AND

PRESENT DRAFT TO COUNCIL FOR DECISION. END SUMMARY.

1. DEPTUY SYG PANSAL INTRODUCED ITEM COMMENTING ON TIMELINESS
OF REPORT AND FACT THAT STUDY GROUP WAS TO TAKE UP IMPLICATIONS
POF PRESENT OIL SITUATION AS NEXT STATE OF ITS EFFORT. HE NOTED
THE REPORT WAS FINALIZED BEFORE THE CURRENT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION BUT
WAS

INTENDED TO PRESENT AN OVERALL EVALUATION OF ALLIANCE OIL POSITION.
CHAIR STATED THE ENERGY PROBLEM HAS VERY IMPORTANT EFFECTS IN
OTHER FIELDS, ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC, AS RESULT OF SELECTIVE SUPPLY
CUTBACKS AND TAKEOVERS OF WESTERN COMPANIES. HE
ASKED IF COUNCIL WOULD AUTHORIZE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO WORK IN
CONJUNCTION WITH STUDY GROUP TO ASSESS THE IMPLICATIONS FROM
SECRET

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AN ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT.

2. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) CHARACTERIZED THE SELECTIVE RESTRICTIONS
OF OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES AS AN "ECONOMIC WEAPON" AND HE RECOMMENDED

SUBJECT BE ASSESSED URGENTLY TO DETERMINE ITS IMPACT. PECK(UK) AND ERALP(TURKEY) SUPPORTED BELGIAN PROPOSAL, WHILE ITALY, CANADA A, AND THE NETHERLANDS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS IN OECD AND CONCERN AS TO AVAILABILITY OF EXPERTS BECAUSE OF DEMANDS CURRENTLY UPON THEM. NETHERLANDS INDICATED THAT NEW FACTOR OF SELECTIVE BOYCOTT WOULD DENY THE NETHERLANDS ABOUT 24 PERCENT OF NORMAL IMPORTS AND THAT STUDY OF THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT DEFINITELY INDICATED. HE STRESSED THAT THE RESULTS OF OECD FINDINGS SHOULD BE CIRCULATED QUICKLY. WORK OF ECONOMIC COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL AND SHOULD NOT BE A COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT EFFORT DUPLICATING WORK OF OIL EXPERTS.

3. AT SUGGESTION FRENCH REP, CHAIR SUGGESTED ECONOMIC COMMITTEE DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NAC CONSIDERATION. U.S. REP SUPPORTED THIS SUGGESTION. ECONOMIC COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (LAULAN) ACCEPTED NAC REQUEST FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE REPORT. LAULAN EXPRESSED PRELIMINARY VIEW THAT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE'S TASK MIGHT BASICALLY BE THREEFOLD: (A) TO ASSESS THE VARIOUS MEANS WHICH COULD BE USED BY PRODUCING COUNTRIES TO RESTRICT SUPPLY; (B) TO STUDY THE IMPACT OF THESE VARIOUS MEANS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON PRICES, INFLATION, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AND MONETARY SITUATION; AND (C) OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS TO OVERCOME SUCH PROBLEMS.

4. IT AGREED ECONOMIC COMMITTEE WOULD DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR NAC CONSIDERATION.

RUMSFELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 02 APR 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NATO05113
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS, 12/31/79
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731064/abqcecvh.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) C-M(73)94 B) STATE 209487
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <26-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAC ITEM: THE ALLIANCE AND OIL SUPPLIES
TAGS: ENRG, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005